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**CLAIMS**

1. A method of preventing or treating insulin-dependent diabetes in a subject comprising introducing into said subject an APC which presents pro-insulin associated with an autoimmune disease, said method comprising collecting a sample of hemopoietic stem cells (HSCs) and/or hemopoietic progenitor cells (HPCs) from said subject, introducing into one or more HSCs and/or HPCs genetic material encoding said pro-insulin or an immunogenic homolog, part, fragment or portion thereof under conditions wherein said genetic material is expressed so that the HSCs and/or HPCs produce said pro-insulin or an immunogenic homolog, part, fragment or portion thereof.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said APC is selected from a dendritic cell, B-lymphocyte, epithelial cell, monocyte and macrophage.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said APC is a dendritic cell.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said subject is selected from the group consisting of a human, primate, sheep, horse, cow, donkey, pig, goat, rabbit, mouse, rat, guinea pig, dog, cat, bird, chicken, bantams, geese and turkeys.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said subject is a human.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said cell is derived from bone marrow from the hip bone, bone marrow, cord blood, blood from liver, blood from a tissue and PBMCs.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said cell is derived from bone marrow from a hip bone.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein said proinsulin is of human origin.

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9. The method of claim 1, wherein said proinsulin is a humanised proinsulin, wherein said proinsulin is derived from the group selected of pig, cow, sheep, horse, goat, mouse and rat.

10. A method for treating or preventing insulin-dependent diabetes in a subject comprising,

(a) collecting a sample of hemopoetic stem cells (HSCs) and/or hemopoetic progenitor cells (HPCs) from a subject;

(b) introducing into one or more HSCs and/or HPCs genetic material encoding pro-insulin or an immunogenic homolog, part, fragment or portion thereof under conditions wherein said genetic material is expressed so that the HSCs and/or HPCs produce said pro-insulin or an immunogenic homolog, part, fragment or portion thereof; and

(c) infusing or introducing said genetically modified cells into said subject.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said HSCs and/or HPCs undergo cytokine mediated mobilisation.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said subject is selected from the group consisting of human, primate, sheep, horse, cow, donkey, pig, goat, rabbit, mouse, rat, guinea pig, dog, cat, bird, chicken, bantams, geese and turkeys.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said subject is a human.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein said HSCs and HPCs are derived from a source selected from bone marrow from the hipbone, bone marrow, cord blood, blood from liver, blood from a tissue and PBMCs.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said HSCs and HPCs are derived from bone marrow from a hipbone.

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16. The method of claim 10, wherein said proinsulin is of human origin.
17. The method of claim 10, wherein said proinsulin is a humanized proinsulin, wherein said proinsulin is derived from a source selected from the group consisting of pig, cow, sheep, horse, goat, mouse and rat.
18. Use of an APC which has been genetically modified to present pro-insulin or an immunogenic homolog, part, fragment or portion thereof associated with insulin-dependent diabetes in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of insulin-dependent diabetes
19. The use of claim 18, wherein said APC is selected from the group consisting of a dendritic cell, B-lymphocyte, epithelial cell, monocyte and macrophage.
20. The use of claim 18, wherein said APC is a dendritic cell.
21. The use of claim 18, wherein said HSCs and/or HPCs are derived from a source selected from the group consisting of a human, primate, sheep, horse, cow, donkey, pig, goat, mouse, rat, guinea pig, dog, cat, chicken, bantam hen, geese and turkey.
22. The use of claim 21, wherein said HSCs and/or HPCs are derived from a human.
23. The use of claim 18, wherein said HSCs and/or HPCs are derived from a source selected from the group consisting of bone marrow from hipbone, bone marrow, cord blood, blood from liver, blood from a tissue and PBMCs.
24. The use of claim 18, wherein said proinsulin is of human origin.
25. The use of claim 18, wherein said proinsulin is a humanized proinsulin, wherein said proinsulin is derived from a source selected from the group consisting of pig, cow, sheep, horse, goat, mouse and rat.